



for Peace and Socialism

# Morning Star

£1.50 Saturday/Sunday April 9-10 2022

Proudly owned by our readers

Incorporating the Daily Worker

Est 1930

morningstaronline.co.uk

# NATO SENDING MORE ARMS TO UKRAINE 'RISKS WORLD WAR III'

## Peace campaigners highlight dangers of escalation as they prepare for protest events across Britain

by Roger McKenzie

PEACE campaigners hit out yesterday at Nato plans to supply "new and heavier" weapons to Ukraine as they prepared to stage more protests and other events across Britain.

The Stop the War Coalition will hold 13 more peace events today, which it has dubbed Peace for Ukraine Day.

This follows the Nato military alliance's announcement that it will step up deliveries of military equipment to Ukraine to oppose the Russian invasion.

In London, Stop the War activities will take place in Ealing, Hackney, Highbury, Lewisham, Newham and Tower Hamlets. Outside the capital, there will be peace events in Brighton, Lowestoft, Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne and Plymouth, plus a Women in Black peace vigil in Oxford.

With no end to the conflict in Ukraine in sight, an international

online rally is planned for 5pm today to call for a ceasefire and a negotiated settlement.

Speakers will include Codepink co-founder Medea Benjamin, author and activist Noam Chomsky, Tricontinental Institute director Vijay Prashad, former Greek finance minister Yanis Varoufakis and writer and peace activist Tariq Ali.

Further events are planned nationwide over the coming weeks.

Emerging from a meeting of Nato foreign ministers on Thursday, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said that it had been agreed to upgrade Ukraine's "Soviet-era equipment to Nato standard equipment on a bilateral basis."

Nato secretary-general Jens Stoltenberg confirmed the stepping-up of arms shipments to Ukraine but would not identify the kind of weaponry to be sent or which countries would supply it.

He said: "The important thing is that

Nato allies are providing significant military support to Ukraine."

But peace campaigners warned that the decision could trigger a dangerous escalation of the conflict.

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) general secretary Kate Hudson, said: "Nato's decision to intensify the scale and type of its weapons deliveries to Ukraine is another step closer to World War III.

"Even the warnings of senior military figures are being ignored. Will the deliveries include so-called 'battlefield' nukes?"

"If they keep on escalating, at some point nukes will be the next rung on their ladder to annihilation. We have to stop this."

CND also launched a campaign today to stop banking giants NatWest Group and RBS investing in companies that build weapons of mass destruction.

Chris Nineham of the Stop the War Coalition told the Morning Star: "As the

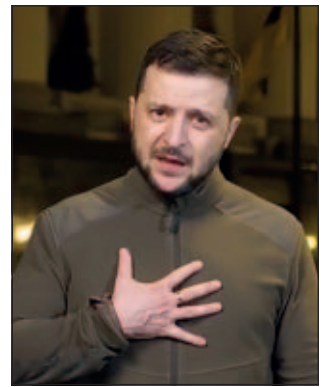
reports mount of the horrors of war in Ukraine, [US President Joe Biden] and [Prime Minister Boris Johnson] have the same irrational response – talk up war and pump more weapons and munitions into Ukraine and the wider region.

"All this can do is deepen and prolong hostilities and suffering. Responsible leaders would be doing precisely the opposite, urging restraint and searching for a path to peace."

Communist Party general secretary Rob Griffiths said: "After three decades of militarising eastern Europe and parts of the former Soviet Union, it's about time Nato began to act as a force for peace."

Instead, Mr Griffiths said, Nato "pours yet more petrol on the flames when the peoples of Ukraine and Russia need a ceasefire and a just and stable settlement of this conflict."

Turn to p3  
Star comment: p10



### FEATURE

## How Zelensky upset Greeks and Cypriots

KEVIN OVENDEN describes how the inclusion of neonazis in the Ukrainian president's video address to the Athens parliament provoked outrage in both Greece and Cyprus.

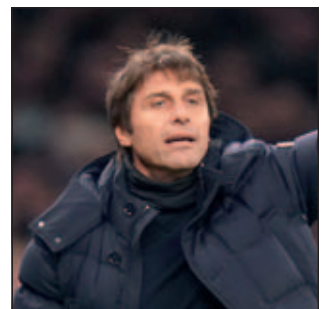
➤ Turn to page 11

### WORLD

## Pakistan's premier clashes with judges

IMRAN KHAN vowed to "fight to the last ball" yesterday after the Supreme Court quashed his decision to dissolve parliament ahead of a vote of no confidence.

➤ Turn to page 6



### SPORT

## Conte's Spurs get their identity back

BELLA KATZ looks at how manager Antonio Conte has instilled confidence in a diverse team since joining the club in November, bringing out the best in players such as Eric Dier and Matt Doherty.

Turn to page 22